Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10 /107 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9021

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PORG, SF, WA

SUBJ: NAMIBIA: NORDIC RESPONSE TO WESTERN FIVE APPROACHES

REF: USUN 0036

1. AMBASSADOR ULRICHSEN OF DENMARK, ON BEHALF OF THE NORDIC GROUP, CALLED AMBASSADOR MCHENRY JANUARY 9, TO RELATE NORDIC RESPONSE TO WESTERN FIVE APPROACHES IN CAPITALS AND CONTACT GROUP BRIEFING JAN. 5 OF NORDIC MISSIONS TO UN (REFTEL). ULRICHSEN REPORTED THAT, WHILE THE NORDICS HAD TAKEN NO FORMAL ACTION, THEY HAD INFORMALLY MADE DEMARCHES TO THE FRONTLINE STATES AND SWAPO, AND EXPRESSED THEIR SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED PROXIMITY TALKS. COMMENT: IT IS OUR IMPRESSION THAT THESE DEMARCHES WERE MADE ONLY IN NEW YORK. END COMMENT.

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2. IN DISCUSSING MEETING NORDICS HAD WITH RESPRESENTATIVES OF FRONTLINE STATES IN NEW YORK (JAN. 6), ULRICHSEN STATED THAT THE FRONTLINE EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSED PROXIMITY TALKS FOR SOME GOOD REASONS (E.G. TALKS WOULD LEAD TO WRITTEN PROPOSALS WHICH MIGHT BE BENEFICIAL) AND FOR SOME REASONS "YOU MIGHT THINK ARE BAD" (E.G., "IF WESTERN INITIATIVE IS GOING TO FAIL, IT MIGHT JUST AS

WELL FAIL QUICKLY.") AMBASSADOR SALIM (TANZANIA), AS SPOKESMAN, REPORTEDLY AGREED THAT LUSAKA WAS UNACCEPTABLE SITE FOR TALKS, STATED THAT IT IS HARD TO GET SWAPO TOGETHER, AND SAID THAT THE FRONTLINE WOULD WORK ON ENCOURAGING SWAPO TO ATTEND.

- 3. RECOUNTING NORDIC'S TALK WITH SWAPO UN REPRESENTATIVE GURIRAB (JAN. 6), ULRICHSEN REPORTED THAT GURIRAB HAD SAID THAT SWAPO IS WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN TALKS BUT HAD TROUBLE WITH TIME AND PLACE. NORDISC DID NOT DISCUSS PLACE WITH GURIRAB, BUT WITH REGARD TO TIME, GURIRAB APPARENTLY CITED, AS ONE REASON WHY THE 17TH JANUARY IS UNACCEPTABLE TO SWAPO, THE SCHEDULED ABSENCE OF UN SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM FROM NEW YORK. NEVERTHELESS, NORDICS FEEL THAT SWAPO HAS IN FACT ACCEPTED THE PRINCIPLE OF PROXIMITY TALKS.
- 4. IN CONCLUDING REPORT, ULRICHSEN SAID THAT FIVE SHOULD NOT EXPECT ANY FURTHER OR FORMAL RESPONSE TO THEIR APPROACHES. HE EXPRESSED AGAIN NORDIC INTEREST IN SEEING THE PROPOSALS WHEN THEY ARE COMPLETED AND SAID THAT FIVE SHOULD NOT HESITATE TO CALL ON NORDICS IF THEY CAN BE OF FURTHER ASSISTANCE.
- 5. COMMENT. CONTACT GROUP AGREED THAT ABOVE-DESCRIBED NORDIC RESPONSE WAS THE MOST TO BE HOPED FOR AND INTER-PRETED THE INFORMAL NATURE OF THE DEMARCHES AS EVIDENCE CONFIDENTIAL

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OF A COMPROMISE MADE IN LIGHT OF SWEDISH, AND THEREFORE FINNISH, RELUCTANCE TO INTERVENE FORMALLY. END COMMENT. MCHENRY

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